

SET 30 FIRES  
HE CONFESSESRemarkable Statement by Young  
Man at Greenfield, Mass

CAUSING LOSS OF \$1,000,000

At Time of Alleged Confession He Was  
Serving Sentence of 30 Days on Charge  
of Larceny—Bernard C. Murray Is  
Name of the Young Man.

Greenfield, Mass., Aug. 10.—Bernard C. Murray, son of a former fire commissioner of Hartford, Conn., confessed yesterday to having set fire to 30 hotels and public buildings in Connecticut and eastern Massachusetts during the past four months.

Among the incendiary fires which Police Chief Manning declares Murray has admitted being responsible for were:

April 22—Waterbury, Conn., city hall and Chelsea hotel.

May 23—Greenfield, Mass., Taylor block and Hollister house.

June 1—Turners Falls, Mass., Grand Trunk hotel and Allen block.

June 8—Greenfield, Mass., Central house.

June 22—Turners Falls, Mass., Bladish hotel and Bartlett block.

July 2—North Adams, Mass., Wilson house.

July 5, and within the following few days, eighteen fires in and about Springfield.

While no lives were lost in the many fires, hundreds of persons, a majority of them hotel guests, were imperilled and the property loss is estimated to be nearly \$1,000,000.

At the time of the alleged confession Murray was serving a sentence of 30 days on a charge of larceny.

According to Chief Manning, the police had received information showing that Murray had been seen in the vicinity of many fires, Murray was a hotel employee but changed his place of occupation frequently and had worked in all the towns in which the fires occurred. Since his arrest many persons have identified him as the man seen near the fires shortly after their origin.

In his confession Murray, who is 24 years old, said: "I could not resist the impulse to do it, although I realized the consequences. Murray explained that he had gone to the second or third floor of many of the places, opened a closet and set fire to any inflammable material which might be in sight. Then closing the door he left the building and went to some nearby place where he could view the fire and the excitement attendant upon it. Frequently he had gone at once to some nearby building and started another blaze so that the fires might burn simultaneously.

While the greatest monetary loss was caused by the Wilson House fire in North Adams, where several business blocks were also burned with a total loss of \$500,000, the most spectacular of the fires was in Waterbury, Conn. Murray, according to Manning, admitted having started the fire which threatened to destroy the city hall, as well as that in the Chelsea hotel, and to setting a dozen other blazes the same night. April 22, Waterbury was in a state of terror because of the fires. The militia was ordered out and patrolled the vicinity of the city hall and other burning buildings for several hours. The total fire damage in Waterbury that night has been estimated at \$200,000.

Many lives were endangered in the Wilson house fire and several persons had narrow escapes. Murray says that he first started a blaze in the basement of the hotel, then ran to another room and started another, returning to assist in quenching the first fire. Both fires got beyond control and the hotel was wrapped in flames while Wilson says he assisted saving what he could of the hotel furniture.

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ALLEGED VIOLATION OF  
CONTRACT LABOR LAWEnglishmen Arrested on Charge of Con-  
spiring to Bring English Operatives  
Into the United States. Three  
Immigrants Are Held at  
Newport.

Boston, Aug. 10.—Francis Vernon Willey of Bradford, England, son of Francis Willey, formerly lord mayor of that city, was arrested here late yesterday on a charge of conspiring to bring English operatives into this country in violation of the contract labor law. Willey is treasurer of the Bare Wool Combining company of Barre, Mass., and is a member of the firm of Francis Willey & Co., wool manufacturers of Bradford and Boston. Three immigrants, said to have been brought into this country by Willey, are being held at Newport, Vt.

## WON HIS THREE RACES.

Walter R. Cox Had Field Day at Pitts-  
burg Races Yesterday.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 10.—Walter R. Cox, the New Hampshire driver on the grand circuit, had a field day of it yesterday, the closing day of the Pittsburg meet, winning every race in which he drove, three out of four on the card. Cox won the 2:18 trot with Arona McKinney, the 2:15 pace with Baron A. and the 2:20 pace with Myrtle Baron, all of them in straight heats.

The free-for-all pacing championship brought out the best field of the week. The race went to Don Densmore after Vernon McKinney had taken the first heat in 2:01½, the fastest time of any heat on the track this year. Densmore took the second heat in 2:02½, making two of the fastest heats on any track this year, and clipped off the third heat in 2:03½.

The 2:20 pace, the last of the day's card, narrowed down to a two-horse race after the first heat. Doctor Weaver and Lew Perkins were distanced in the first heat and Directum Patch in the second. Myrtle Baron, the Cox horse, and Denver Jay, a Colorado horse, were left to fight it out. Baron A. got away in the lead in every heat of the 2:15 pace and held it to the finish.

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20,000 TROOPS  
IN WAR GAMESouthwestern Connecticut Scene  
of Stupendous Manoeuvres

CAMPAIGN STARTED TO-DAY

Point Is to See if the "Blue" Army Can  
Prevent Invading "Red" Army from  
Crossing New England Line Into  
New York State.

Manoeuvre Headquarters, Stratford, Conn., Aug. 10.—An area of southwestern Connecticut of 450 square miles in extent is to-day transmuted from the scenes of peace to the pageantry of war. Regiments of infantry, troops of cavalry, batteries of artillery, field trains, wagons, auto trucks, ambulances and hospital equipment are detraining at strategic points for the divisional action between the "Reds" and the "Blues," passing to various camps and preparing for the opening movements of the nine days' Connecticut manoeuvre campaign.

Sixty-five special trains have crisscrossed the state to distribute the thousands of men in khaki who are to receive training in the art of war among picturesque hills of the old Constitution state.

The campaign which began to-day and at 6 o'clock to-night will have reached the real point of a state of war is expected to be one of the most important ever held in the East. The number of men actually engaged will exceed 20,000.

In the general scheme war has been waging for some time. It is a "Red" army of foreigners that has been pressing on to capture New York. The Americans have been forced back slowly but surely and after a stubborn resistance the "Blues" have lost New Haven and Waterbury on a line running north and south, and while a rear guard of two regiments of infantry are fighting the patriots are rushing a provisional division to their assistance. The advance of the "Reds" is that of a division, but the main army, 20,000 strong, in theory, is coming up as a support.

The regiment of the "Blues," however, must fight and fight hard in western Connecticut to give the government time to rush its regulars to the aid of New York. The divisional defense is not only to check the direct advance by the sound shore roads to New York, but to prevent a wide flanking movement towards the Massachusetts line, which if successful would sweep down the valley of the Hudson and over-run the great watershed of the city.

The problem to be worked out in the next week is whether the forces of the "Blues" can be so maneuvered as to stop the advance of the "Reds" before the New York state line is reached. Never before since these war games have been played jointly by the regular army and the national guard has a region been selected in which both a defensive and an offensive campaign can be worked out with such brilliant displays of military strategy. Within this region the entire body of 20,000 men can be almost entirely lost and yet it will invade the property rights and trespass on home-steads only to a trifling degree.

The battle is expected to be a spectacular and tens of thousands of peaceful citizens who have not been frightened by the war-like aspect of what has transpired will witness the attempt of the army to annihilate the other. In the early stages of the movement, General Bliss will play both sides of the game, but in the battle movements the test of strategy and military handling will rest with General Smith and Colonel Mills.

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## JULIE RING COMING.

In Musical Comedy, "The Yankee Girl,"  
Next Friday, August 16.

Julie Ring, the celebrated comedienne, and her big singing company, including Charles J. Winniger, will be seen in the musical musical comedy, "The Yankee Girl," at the opera house next Friday night, Aug. 16. This musical play was written by George V. Hobart and Silvio Hein and its merry airs are whistled and hummed wherever the piece has been presented, for the music is catchy, with plenty of jingle and a dreamy swing to the waltz numbers that makes of the ordinary mortal a confirmed music lover. Some of the principal songs are "Top of the Morning," "The Yankee Girl," "Where's Mamma?" "That Bandit Man," "Love Among the Roses," "Maid of Servilia," "Whooop Daddy Oodden Dooden Day" and "Louisiana Elizabeth."

The play tells a well-connected story of a jolly American girl's experience in a southern republic, who, while traveling with her father, protects his business interests from Japanese schemers who try to get control of mines that are his property. There are many amusing situations and the lines are bright and replete with witty repartee. One of the most laughable scenes is a travesty on a battle waged between the government and insurgent forces of the little republic.

Miss Ring is happily cast. She plays the girl around whom the plot revolves and she is a delightful songstress in her own delightful way. Mr. Winniger plays a German character part, employing a tangle tongue dialect that enables him to provoke much laughter. John Burkell, Robert B. Thurston, Madge Lawrence, Marie Hassman and others will be seen to good advantage. Added to this array of talent is a beauty chorus, composed of young women who have splendid voices.

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